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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-33 are currently pending. Claims 5, 6, 9-11 and 22-33 are rejected and claims 7-8 and 20 are objected to. The Examiner has stated that claims 1-4, 12-19 and 21 are allowed. By this Amendment, claims 7, 23 and 30 are canceled, claims 5, 8, 22, 27, 29 and 31 are amended and claims 34-39 are added.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 27-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claim 27 has been amended to describe the "at least one sensor positioned within the wall of the liner." This feature is fully supported by the specification, which states that "five force sensing resistors capable of measuring positive normal forces were placed on the liner mold prior to pouring...by having the force sensing resistors in the liner, the sensor were flush with the inner wall of the liner." (See Application, page 9 ln. 20 – page 10 ln. 1.) Claims 27-33 fully comply with the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 27-33 is respectfully requested.

Claim 29 was further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. For the sake of expedient allowance of the pending claims, claim 29 has been amended to remove the limitation "vibratory alarm." Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Havey.

Havey is an article which covers "electronic and mechanical measurement instrumentation systems by type and category and give[s] examples of their use in research." Havey is intended to provide information regarding transducer systems which may be incorporated into laboratory instrumentation for use with any orthoses or prostheses. Thus, Havey provides a laundry list of transducer applications for orthoses and prostheses,

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including, for example, force transducers, pressure transducers, temperature transducers, humidity transducers, angle/level transducers, displacement transducers and acceleration transducers. Havey discusses criteria for selecting individual transducers and again provides a laundry list of different types of transducers for sensing each of the above described applications.

Claim 22 is directed to an apparatus for monitoring the environment of a socket of a prosthetic limb having a residual limb contained therein. Such an apparatus comprises "at least one of a pressure sensor and a force sensor", "a temperature sensor", "a moisture sensor" and "a means for indicating values sensed by at least one of the pressure sensor, force sensor, temperature sensor and moisture sensor."

While it is true that Havey provides descriptions of several types of pressure transducers, force transducers, temperature transducers and moisture transducers, Havey fails to teach or suggest combining multiples transducers (sensors) into a single apparatus, much less the motivation for making such a combination or in what type of apparatus such transducers should be incorporated. Again, this is because Havey merely provides a laundry list of transducers for use in laboratory instrumentation. Thus, in relation to claim 22, Havey specifically fails to teach or suggest combining "at least one of a pressure and a force sensor" *and* a temperature sensor *and* a moisture sensor into a single apparatus. (Emphasis added).

Because Havey fails to teach or suggest all of the features of claim 22, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Claims 24-26 depend from claim 22 and are allowable for at least that reason. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-6, 9-11, 22, 24-29 and 32-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mak. Claims 7-8 and 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were noted to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 5 has been rewritten to include the features of objected to claim 7 and claim 7 has been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-11 and 20 depend from amended claim 5 and are allowable for at least that reason. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claim 22 has been amended to include the features of dependent claim 23, which was not rejected as being anticipated by Mak. Claim 23 has been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Claims 24-26 depend from claim 22 and are allowable for at least that reason. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 27 has been amended to include the features of claim 30, which was not rejected as being anticipated by Mak. Claim 30 has been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 27 is respectfully requested.

Claims 28-29 and 31-33 depend from claim 27 and are allowable for at least that reason. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New Claims

Independent claim 34 is newly added and includes all of the limitations of objected to claim 20 and the base claim. New claims 35-39 depend from claim 34. Claims 34-39 are fully supported by the specification and no new matter has been added. Entry and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

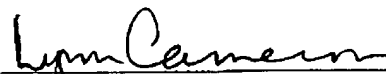
All of the claims remaining in this application should now be seen to be in condition for allowance. The prompt issuance of a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If there are any remaining questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

The fees for the newly added claims are enclosed. Should any of the provided fees be incorrect, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit the Faegre & Benson Deposit Account No. 06-0029 as necessary, and is requested to notify us of the same.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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